

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (currently amended): A system comprising:  
a first communication device associated with a first user wherein said first communication device has a physical location parameter and is configured to communicate with a second communications device associated with a second user;  
a community engine server comprising a profile associated with said first user wherein said community engine server is configured to obtain at least one affiliate profile having a format associated with a specific operating system, transform the at least one affiliate profile into at least one common format affiliate profile that is independent of said specific operating system, and compare said profile with at least one common format affiliate profile and obtain a match result; and,  
at least one affiliate server comprising said at least one affiliate profile associated with an affiliate user wherein said at least one affiliate server is configured to provide said at least one affiliate profile to said community engine server over a communication network.
2. (original): The system of claim 1 wherein said first communication device is configured to transfer information with said second communication device upon selection of an alias associated within N-degrees of freedom of said match.
3. (original): The system of claim 1 wherein said first communication device is configured to allow a user to join a group based on said physical location parameter of said first communication device.
4. (original): The system of claim 1 wherein said first communication device is configured to transfer information directly with said second communications device.
5. (currently amended): The system of claim 1 wherein said first communications device is configured to ~~transform~~ transfer information indirectly with said second communications device.

6. (original): The system of claim 1 wherein said physical location parameter is a static postal code.

7. (original): The system of claim 1 wherein said physical location parameter is a dynamic physical location of said first communication device.

8. (original): The system of claim 1 wherein said communications network comprises a web service.

9. (original): The system of claim 1 wherein said community engine server comprises a scalable architecture.

10. (currently amended): A system comprising:  
a first communication device associated with a first user wherein said first communication device comprises a physical location parameter and is configured to communicate with a second communication device associated with a second user by asserting an alias associated within N-degrees of freedom of said first user and further configured to allow said first user to join a group based on said physical location parameter of said first communications device;  
a community engine server comprising a profile associated with said first user wherein said community engine server is configured to configured to obtain at least one affiliate profile having a format associated with a specific operating system, transform the at least one affiliate profile into at least one common format affiliate profile that is independent of said specific operating system, and compare said profile with at least one common format affiliate profile and obtain a match result; and,

at least one affiliate server comprising said at least one affiliate profile associated with an affiliate user wherein said affiliate server is configured to provide said at least one affiliate profile to said community engine server over a communication network.

11. (original): The system of claim 10 wherein said first communication device is configured to transfer information directly with said second communication device.

12. (original): The system of claim 10 wherein said first communication device is configured to transfer information indirectly with said second communication device.

13. (original): The system of claim 10 wherein said physical location parameter is a static postal code.

14. (original): The system of claim 10 wherein said physical location parameter is a dynamic physical location of said first communication device.

15. (original): The system of claim 10 wherein said communication network comprises a web service.

16. (original): The system of claim 10 wherein said community engine server comprises a scalable architecture.

17. (currently amended): A method comprising:  
obtaining an affiliate profile having a format associated with a specific operating system of  
~~from~~ an affiliate server; transforming said affiliate profile to a transformed affiliate profile that is  
independent of said specific operating system;

    caching said transformed affiliate profile in a cache in a community engine server;

    accessing a first user profile in said community engine server;

    comparing said first user profile to said transformed affiliate profile; and,

    generating a match result based on said comparing.

18. (original): The method of claim 17 wherein said obtaining said affiliate profile comprises accessing a web service hosted on said affiliate server from said community engine server.

19. (original): The method of claim 17 wherein said transforming further comprises the use of XSLT.

20. (original): The method of claim 17 wherein said caching further comprises accessing a database.

21. (original): The method of claim 17 wherein said accessing is based upon a user associated with said first user profile manipulating a communication device interface.

22. (original): The method of claim 17 wherein said comparing is performed within at least one group associated with said first user profile.

23. (original): The method of claim 17 wherein said comparing is performed based on a physical location parameter of a communication device.

24. (original): The method of claim 17 wherein said generating is performed when a user associated with said first user profile accesses said community engine server.

25. (original): The method of claim 17 wherein said generating is performed asynchronously by said community engine server.

26 – 29 (cancelled).

29. (original): The method of claim 28 further comprising: inviting a user to join a group associated with said group profile based on said match result.

30. (currently amended): A system comprising:  
means for obtaining an affiliate profile having a format associated with a specific operating system of from an affiliate server;  
means for transforming said affiliate profile to a transformed affiliate profile that is independent of said specific operating system;  
means for caching said transformed affiliate profile in a cache in a community engine server;  
means for accessing a first user profile in said community engine server;

means for comparing said first user profile to said transformed affiliate profile; and,  
means for generating a match result based on said comparing.

31 – 34 (canceled).